

Newsletter

September 2017

Hi,

Welcome back to the new term - we hope you had a lovely Summer break (despite it feeling cooler and wetter than winter at times)

Our Pre-School Leavers party was a huge success, even though we had to say good-bye to lot's of children - so sad! A big Thank-you for all the truly wonderful gifts. How proud we were of the happy, confident little ones we had the pleasure to watch grow and over time.

We will be implementing several new systems and routines from September - with this in mind the first half term will be spent settling into them (plus, the children need time to adjust after their long summer break)

Ofsted Inspection

We would like to thank all of you who sent the many messages of 'congratulations' on our Ofsted Inspection and subsequent 'GOOD' grade. We are so proud to be continually recognised as a good childcare setting - thank-you for all your support. We are continually looking to improve our practice, environment and outcomes for children.

Staff

Congratulations to both Marie and Amy on the birth of their beautiful bouncing babies. We are extremely pleased to be welcoming back Becky, Jo and Daniey (who are returning from their maternity leave). Unfortunately, we have to inform you that Shannon will be leaving the beginning of September to pursue a career change - we wish her well. We hope you will join us in welcoming Rhiannon Roberts who has just completed her Level 2 qualification in Early Years and will be joining the team in Pre-School (while undertaking her Level 3).

Room Change

What used to be our Under 3's Room is now our Toddler Room. Basically, this room operates as a combination of old Under 3's with many elements of Pre-School. There are quite a few changes within this room, mostly that children will stay in here longest (as Pre-School is only for children in their last year before starting school). With this in mind and wanting to encourage their independence and development further, children will now be encouraged to serve all their meals, foods and drinks as well as prepare and clear away. The rooms daily routines will generally follow that of the Pre-School room (of course, with the understanding that there are younger children within this room). Group Times with their Key Worker will be introduced as well as Languages, Signs and Sounds (as previous).

New Daily Diaries

We have a new Daily Diary which hopefully gives Parents much more information on their child's time with us. All feedback is greatly appreciated, so let us know what you think!

School Readiness Programme

Our Pre-School room now only has children who are in their last year before they start school. Complex research has been carried out over the past few years, with regards to how best ensure children are 'ready' to begin their school life. Schools, Reception Teachers, Pre-Schools and Education Departments have identified key areas within a child's learning and development that would greatly enhance their transitions. With this in mind, we have devised our own School Readiness Programme. Parents of Pre-School children will be given all of the information directly.

Updated Policies

In light of our price increases, our Payment of Fees & Out of School Care policies have been updated. Speak to a member of staff if you would like a copy. All Policies are due for their annual updates in November.

Sports Training - Pre-School

Will be taking place on Fridays this half term. The coaches will be getting to know the children and their individual physical abilities in order to plan for their future next steps.

Resource Library (home share bags)

Attached is a letter explaining how Parents and children can access our Resource Library. Please complete and take it to your child's Key Worker if you and your child would like to share in these activities at home.

If anyone still has one of our Home Share Bags at home, please may we ask that you return as soon as possible.

James and the Dragon

We have a budding Author in our midst! Andrew Powell-Thomas (James's Dad) has had a children's book published so please show your support and read/buy James and the Dragon. Andrew has also released a non-fiction book The West Country's Last Line of Defence - Taunton Stop Line can be purchased through Amazon. Alternatively, see www.facebook.com/authorAPT.

Stay & Play Session - reminder

Will be taking place on **Monday 6th November - 9am till 10am**. Parents will be able to stay and join in with their child's play. Please may we remind everyone that this is for children who actually attend on Mondays ONLY. The day changes every half term to ensure every Parent gets a chance to join their children.

Open Afternoon

Is on **Tuesday 24th October from 2pm - 4pm**. This is open to everyone, so come along and join us for refreshments, join in with the children's play, meet all of the Key Workers and explore the setting.

New Menu - reminder

Our Winter Menu will be coming out shortly - for October, November & December

Fees Up - reminder

Increases from September are - Under 2's = £4.40 per hour
Under 3's = £4.30 per hour
Over 3's = £4.20 per hour

Breakfast Club

7.30am start = £7.00
8.00am start = £5.00

October Holiday Club -

Is from Monday 23rd to Friday 27th October. If you require any care for this period, please book as soon as possible.

Christmas Closing & Holiday Club - reminder

We are **CLOSED** from Monday 25th December through to Monday 1st January (inclusive).

We are back on Tuesday 2nd January for Holiday Club (which includes 3rd, 4th & 5th).

Term starts back on Monday 4th January 2107

Kind Regards - Sharon, Di & the Team